THE IOLA REGISTER FRIDAY: JUNE 13 1902

THE SPUR OF FATE

By Ashley Towne

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Charles B. Etherington. 010101010101010101010101010 His utterance was checked by his interest in his companion's conduct. She seemed to be indulging in some sort of strange and violent exercise under her cloak.

"If I could only be rid of this!" she cried at last between her clinched teeth, and suddenly she thrust out her right hand.

Darrell was amazed to perceive that there was a handcuff upon her wrist, rom which the other iron swung by a halo.

"You will think me a criminal, I sup-

ose," said she, "but"—
"On the contrary," said be, "I pereive you to be the victim of a crime. There was, then, some one in the carriage with you?"

"And you were being taken away against your will?"

"I was." "The matter grows clear," said Darrell. "May I ask what became of the abductor, the man who was in the cab with you?"

"He sprang out when you stopped the horses," she replied. "He supposed-and so did I-that it was an attempt at rescue by my friends."

size of the handcuff with reference to the very pretty hand which it restrained. It was a white hand, a warm hand, altogether a most delightful hand to hold in one's own in the light of two bright brown eyes. Darrell was obliged to squeeze it as he had never squeezed a woman's hand before, for surely it had never fallen to his lot to find one in such an embarrassing predicament.

"Your friends?" said be, pressing the hand into the smallest possible compass and glancing at the eyes to see how much pain he was causing. "I will take you to them."

"No," she replied; "I must not go near them. I cannot bring them into peril. Oh, really that hurts, my friend: out don't stop, if there's a chance of freeing me. I can bear it."

"Pull!" said Darrell, his face contorted as if it were he that bore the pain. "Gently, with caution. It is not to be scarred, this hand so white. Free, by jingo!" The last words in English, for one's native tongue is best in moments of congratulation. "Free, and no great harm done, thank the Lord!"

"I speak no English or only a very nttle," she said. "But I understood what you said. Yes, I am free, thanks to you, as free as I am ever likely to be. And my hand is not torn, though my wrists are, but not by you."

She exhibited the evidences of cruel usage, and Darrell's face blazed with

"If I had known this"- he began "But that is like boasting. We will wait until I have found the men who did it. Why was it done? I cannot understand how any one could have thought it necessary."

it" she replied. "I was captured in a less so in the terrible scenes that had narrow and dark street as I was leav- preceded her extraordinary rescue. ing the house of some friends of mine. Darrell now saw at what expense it The man who seized me thrust a gag had been maintained. into my month, but one can always make a little noise, so he put these he removed the gag and silenced me only by putting his hand over my mouth. Upon my word, I think the fellow was a gentleman, more or less."

Darrell. "And now what shall we do? We can't wait here, you know. Shall ! get the cab?"

hand upon his arm. "What do you think of me?"

"I will tell you frankly," he replied. "In the first place let me say that I am cate," he said. quite sure I know the man whom I threw down from the box of that carriuge. I did not immediately recognize him, for I had no clear view of his face, yet unless I am greatly mistaken he was a Russian officer, one who held the title of captain, but had not the air of a military man; probably a secret agent of the government. Then this capture was in the nature of an arrest. one of those quiet affairs that are outside the law of the land. It follows, then, my friend, that you are a nihil-

"I swear to you that I am not!" she said, with impressive earnestness. am a friend of liberty, but no friend of







She thrust out her right hand. assassination. Of course there are many nihilists who could say the same -the vast majority, in fact-but I am not one of them. I know not of what I may be suspected"-

"And I," said Darrell, "care not. You are in trouble, and I am going to hour, I am not troubled by the small-help you. I am on your side, my est doubt. I shall tell Mrs. Gordon exchild. Do you understand? Whatever you desire shall be accomplished if it lie within my small capacity."

"I would not lead you into danger," she replied. "You have saved me from Darrell was engaged in testing the utter destruction, and I should make a poor return"-

"If there is one thing that I despise more than another in a man," said Darrell. "it is prudence. Thank heaven, it was left out of me entirely. Let us find a cab."

CHAPTER III.



THE BALL OF THE QUATRE-Z-ARTS. HEN they came to the end of the street, they found more lights and for Paris, it was not much to boast of, and last, however, they

were able to waylay an empty vehicle, into which Darrell assisted the lady of the brown eyez. Where would monsieur wish to go?

It was the cabman's question, and Darrell seemed not to hear it.

"You were on your way"- he began and paused. "To the Place Blanche," said the

coachman. "Ah, yes," responded Darrell. "We

will go to the Place Blanche." He took his place in the carriage and became immediately aware that his companion was shivering pitifully. As the night was unseasonably warm, this

phenomenou required an explanation. "You are ill?" he asked. "Frightened," she answered. "I am

quaking with terror. Absurd, now that it is all over!"

And then she burst into tears, weeping with a perfect self abandonment which he was sufficiently experienced to recognize as the best possible relief. Her calmness in the first mine man whom you encountered did astounding and doubtless had been no

Consolation and tenderness are intorture me into silence as he led me to holding her hand and caressing it as exiled, and my mother and myself the carriage. The other, whom I found innocently as if she had been a hurt Inside the vehicle, was much more mer- child. Then suddenly she was a wociful. He did not torture me. Indeed man again, and he was a man of the world restrained by all the barriers of conventionality.

"I am not often so weak," she said. "You would be surprised to know what "Much less, I should say," replied I have borne without a tear. But I have no intention of burdening you with my sorrows. Help me through a few more minutes until I have formed "One word," she said, laying her a plan, and then I will relieve you absolutely of all care of me."

"Surely there must be some one with whom you would wish to communi-

"There are a few to whom I would send word," she replied, "but unfortunately I do not know just where they are. Certainly they can be of no use to me this night. Moreover, it is disagreeable to mention the circumstance. but I am absolutely without money. I had a purse containing a small sum, but it is gone. There is more at the house where I have been living, but I dare not visit it, for I think the Russlan agents are ignorant of the fact that I dwelt there, and I would not direct their attention to my friends. Perhaps tomorrow I can send word.'

"I will agree to manage that," said Darrell, "and in the meantime let me say in the gentlest way that money does not enter into this problem. I have a large pocketful, and of course you are more than welcome to all you may need. As to the night, we could ride in this cab till daylight if necessary, but I would rather you should have rest, and as to that I have a plan. I have some friends at the students' ball-Mr. and Mrs. Gordon, Americans and very nice people; precisely the sort for an emergency such as this. I have a card for the ball. It was my intention to go, but I changed my mind. And now fate has changed it for me in the other direction. If you wouldn't mind waiting in this carriage near the Moulin Rouge, I might go in and consult Mrs. Gordon. She is a person of

expedients." "You cannot ask her to take any interest in me," said the girl. "She does not know me, and I have no means of making myself truly known to you. The circumstances of our meeting are a poor guarantee in such a matter."

"There is, however," said Darrell, count, I must not attract the hounds such a thing as instinctive recognition of individual character. I have seen my story. Shall you tell it to Mrs.



"I am Vera Shevaloff."

good and bad women, very many of both, and I have seen women of birth and breeding and others who lacked those advantages. Such being the case, though I have known you less than an actly what has happened; I shall tell her precisely what I believe of you, and then, if I know her"-

"What can she do? She cannot take me to her home,"

Darrell turned more directly toward her. From the brightly lighted street there came a glow sufficient to illuminate the interior of the carriage, and the girl's face was clearly defined.

"Why not?" he asked. "My friends have nothing to fear from the czar's spies. The fact that you are persecuted and pursued will merely make them the more anxious to befriend you. They are not afraid of anything, and, as for annoyance, beaven help the man who tries to annoy Robert Gordon, 1 have known him a good many years. a livelier region; but, Therefore I say to you, Why not?"

"There is no reason whatever," she said, looking him straight in the eyes. cabs were scarce. At "I am Vera Shevaloff, the daughter of a prince. I am of the house of Konstantin of Stavropol."

> "Stavropol!" exclaimed Darrell. "Why are you surprised?"

"Because I have recently met Ivan Getchikoff, son of the governor general of the province," answered Darrell. "I saw him this afternoon in the company of Ladisley, the man whom I believe to have been the conchman of your prison on wheels. It cannot be that Getchikoff assisted him in that enterprise?"

"If it was he, I did not recognize him," she replied. "I doubt, indeed, whether I should know Ivan in broad daylight, and this man I scarcely saw at all."

"I think he would be above such work," said Darrell.

"The Getchikoffs are proud," she said, "but cruel as wolves. They are all powerful in Stavropol today, both in the city and the province. It is probable that I should have been taken there for some form of trial, though as to that I am merely making a guess. utes of their acquaintance had been I have no means of knowing what would have been done with me except that I should eventually have been sent back to Siberia.'

"Sent back!" exclaimed Darrell. "Have you been there?"

"I accompanied my father," she anmight have avoided it. As to what we and domino who got out. Meanwhile the horrors that are reserved for those who survive it. My mother lived more than two years after we reached the prison settlement to which we were assigned; my father, some months longer. In Stavropol, my friend, there is within it is a tomb of white marble. The snows of Siberia are whiter than the marble, and perhaps my father and my mother sleep as well in one place as another. Let us not think of it."

"But you!" exclaimed Darrell, "You escaped?"

"I was released."

"Then how can you be sent back?" "Because," said Vera, extending a

white hand from the folds of the cloak into the light and holding it couched in a peculiar manner, "In order to avoid a fate worse than Siberian exile I drove a knife into the heart of Nicholas Gorski, governor of the district.'

"Thank God?" gasped Darrell invol-

untarily. "The order for my release had already arrived," Vera continued, "and Gorski dared not suppress or delay it. I knew what must happen the instant that I heard of the arrival of the order, and so I prepared the knife for myself. But circumstances made it possible for me to sheath it elsewhere than in my own breast. It was all very fortunate. I am told that six months had elapsed and I was far from Siberia before the suspicion arose that I had struck him down. His death was a mystery. Even now, if I were disposed to deny it in a fair tribunal, the act could not be proved. That is why I shall never be openly arrested outside of Russia."

"You came to Paris?" "Eventually, yes. But I have been in many parts of Europe, even in Stavropol, though that was a great risk, for the Getchikoffs, who plotted and accomplished my father's destruction, would make short work with me. I went to obtain funds that he had hidden, and I was successful. Since comhillists, and that is why I am unable to don this afternoon that I would never seek any refuge this night. If I am an have any more fun!" object of pursuit upon my own ac-

toward another quarry. Now you have

Gordon? "Most certainly," answered Darrell, "and the sooner the better. I am only sorry that you cannot go with me into the ball, but unmasked it would not be best. I am afraid to leave you alone in the carriage."

"It is impossible that they should have followed me," she said. "I shall

not be alarmed." Darrell glanced out of the cab win-

"We are in the Rue Blanche," he said. "It is the Church of La Trinite that we have just passed to the left only become the more anxious to enthere. It is a matter of five minutes now. By beaven, I wish it were not necessary to leave you!"

"I think it would be best for you," said she, "to leave me forever. I am a dangerous companion for you or for your friends. It is monstrous that I Joplin city council granted a franshould permit you to interest them in chise to a company of Kansas City me. Why is it not best that I should take the hint you have given me and ride in this cab all night?" "Alone?" cried Darrell. "If I am to

desert you in that way, let the driver take us to the river first. I am not the gas land but it is not known whether for it isn't safe to be without it in Par-Is for a minute." "I cannot take it," protested Vera,

and while they were disputing upon the Place Blanche and presently stopportals of the Moulin Rouge,

a little way, and then alighted. Immediately he was aware of two figures, man and woman, who were hurrying toward him. The man was frocked like a gray friar, with cord and cowl; the woman wore a fawn colored domino, and she twirled a mask by its cord She had abundant dark brown hair, and she was tall, like Vera. Her companion was a six footer, and he looked giant in his gray robe. "I beg your pardon," he said in Eng-

lish. "Are you done with the cab? All these are engaged."

"You leave the ball early," said Darrell, without answering the question. "Is it less interesting than usual?"

"We say goodby to Paris at sunrise," the young man replied. "Isn't that beastly? We have just time to get to our lodgings and finish packing. You are an American, aren't you?"

"Yes," replied Darrell, "I'm an Amer tean, as you are, and I'm in a bit of a fix also, as you are. You want a cab, and I want to go into the ball with my friend, but we can't do it without cos tumes. If we don't get any, I shall be obliged to go in alone, and she will wait in the cab; so you can't have it. If, on the other hand, you will sell me your frock-are you dressed completely under it?" "Oh, yes, I'm dressed all right."

"And as to the domino? Could it be spared?"

"How funny?" exclaimed the young woman, with a laugh. "But everything happens in Paris. Certainly your friend can have the domino. Somebody spilled a glass of bock on the back of it"-and she turned to reveal the stain-"but if your friend doesn't mind that"-"The stain is an advantage," replied

Darrell. "What says the monk?" "My freck for the cab!" cried the friar. "It is yours."

Darrell protested that he must pay the worth of the dresses-indeed much Then the two suffered, there are now many books Darrell in the shadow of the vehicle which describe the long journey and | had slipped the monk's frock over his

"I have made her a present of my cloak," whispered Vera. "She fancies that I am a millionairess upon a triffing of the legislature to include school escapade. She will change her opinion districts in the term municipalities." about my wealth when she views the a cathedral which my father built, and cloak by daylight. It has seen hard service

"I might give the gentleman my opera hat," replied Darrell, "or your handcuffs. But the latter I value too highly as a souvenir, and the former, closed, lies easily in the bosom of my gown. And now for cabby." He beckoned to the driver, who climb-

ed down from the box.

"Fifty francs for you," said Darrell, if you are discreet. Do you understand? You will forget everything. Call there at 6 tomorrow."

He gave the man his card, upon which was written the address of a club. "Why do you bribe him?" asked

Vera. "If any successful attempt is made to trace you," replied Darrell, "this

man will be found, and if that happens I want to know of it. Meanwhile these costumes are great luck." The unfrocked monk leaned from the cab window and gave directions to the

coachman. Vera and Darrell, turning away, waved their hands in farewell. The portal of the Moulin Rouge was beset by such a throng that Darrell and his companion passed through unnoticed. But a moment later, as they worked their way out of the press, a couple dressed as sailors, the woman's costume being like the man's in the

merry badlnage. "We knew you weren't going away," drinking too much wine,"

'Mistaken identity," laughed Darrell in Vera's ear. "I hope our friends were well behaved, for their reputation has passed to us. Now to find the Gor-

WOULD PIPE GAS TO JOPLIN

Franchise Granted by Joplin City Council to a Nataral Gas Company

Every town in southeastern Kansas and Southwestern Missouri and also Kansas City has been looking with longing and envious eyes towards the natural gas belt for years. Most of them have tried to find gas themselves have failed and in the failure have joy the luxuries of it. Already this week reports have been sent out from Kansas City and Galena that natural gas would be piped to those cities from the Iola field. Last week the men and the dispatch says that the gas is to come from Iola. Heims who was to furnish the gas for Kansas City claimed to have an abundance of man who could live after such treason, the Kansas City men who have the And, besides, you haven't any money to Joplin franchise are backed by Heims pay the fellow in the morning, which or not. The following dispatch from reminds me that I must lend you some, the Kansas City Journal tells the story in detail:

Joplin, Mo., June 5. The city councouncil tonight granted a franchise this point the carriage rolled out into to a company of Kansas City capitalists, represented by ex-Fire Chief ped amid a press of vehicles before the Hale, of that city, for the purpose of furnishing natural gas to the citizens Darrell directed the cabman to go on of Joplin. The company claims to own several thousand acres of producing gas land in the Iola gas district, and is asking for franchises in Galena, Kas., and Webb City, and Carterville, Mo., to be connected with the Joplin pipe line. The distance from Jopiin to the Iola natural gas field is sixty miles, and it is intended to use a ten inch :pipe (for the supply. The company has obligated itself to furnish natural gas at a maximum rate of 50 cents per thousand cubic feet. This cuts the present rate one half.

The Wilson Case Reversed REGISTER readers will remember the

ase of State vs James Wilson, the contractor who built the north school house and was charged with working his men over eight hours a day. The case was set fortrial and the witneses subpoenzed at the last October term of court before Cap. Ewing, who was judge pro tem in the absence of Judge Stillwell. The information was quashed and the defendant discharged on the ground tha school districts did not come within the purview of the law because such bodies were not specifically named in the act. Union laborers were intersely interested in the case and county Attorney Goshorn at once appealed the case to the supreme court. Saturday that court handed down an opinion in which it held that all public bodies such as school districts come within the law and that contractors working for such bodies must not work their laborers over eight hours a day. Therefore contractors who build the

new school house in lola and the one in Gas City will be compelled to work under the provisions of the eight more-and he succeeded in forcing the hour law. The case just decided is separably connected, and before Dar- swered calmly. "Upon the downfall young man to accept a sum that was one that affects the whole State and upon my wrists and twisted them to rell was really aware of it he was of my family four years ago he was probably an agreeable addition to his several prosecutions in this State have been lying dormant awaiting th chose to share his fate, though we into the cab, and it was Vera in mask cision of the supreme court in this one.

The question was a close one, and the court in their opinion say "that cities are the only real municipalities in this State, still it was the intention

Read it in His Newspaper

George Schaub, a well known German citizen of New Lebanon, Ohio, is a constant reader in the Dayton Volkszeitung. He knows that this paper aims to advertise only the best in its for lame back, he did not hesitate in buying a bottle of it for his wife, who most terrible pains in her back and Eshbaugh. could get no relief. He says: "After using the Pain Balm for a few days my wife said to me, 'I feel as though and one mile south of Humboldt. The born anew,' and before using the entire contents of the bottle the unbearable pains had entirely vanished and she could again take upher household duties." He is very thankful and hopes that all (suffering likewise will hear of the wonderful recovery. This valuable liniment is for sale by W. L. CRABB & Co., CAMPBELL& BURRELL

Mr. Wormwood of Larned, who is visiting in Great Bend, is supposed to have his gall with him.

Cholera Morbus a Dangerous Disease In many cases attacks of cholera morbus terminate fatally before medicine can be procured or a physician summoned. The safe way is to keep minutest detail, accosted them with on hard a reliable medicine for use in such cases. For this purpose there is nothing so sure as Chamberlain's said the woman, "You were afraid of Colic Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. W. E. Bosworth, of LaFayette, Ala., says: "In June, 1900, I had a serious attack of cholera morbus and one dose of Chamberlain's Colic, ing to Paris I have harbored with ni-hillsts, and that is why I am unable to seek any refuge this night. If I am an have any more fun?"

Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy gave me relief in fifteen minutes." For sale by W. L.CRABB & Co. CAMPBELL in any part of the body; Doan's Oint & BURRELL.

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STEEL DUST is a bandsome dark aims to advertise only the best in its bay, sired by an imported thorough-columns, and when he saw Chamber- bred English Turf Horse, Hisdamwas lain's Pain Balm advertised (therein a Kentucky steel dust mare with a rec-for lame back, he did not hesitate in ord of 2:28. He weighs about 1250 and is 161 hands high, and is a good all round general purpose horse. STEEL "and as much more tomorrow evening for eight weeks had suffered with the Dust was formerly owned by Joe

STEEL DUST will make the season as follows: Mordays and Tuesdays at the James Finley place, five miles east balance of the week at the Iola Fair Grounds.
TERMS: \$8.00 to insure living colt.

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